

# EUROPEAN ECONOMY

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES • DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Supplement B — No 2 — February 1983

## Business survey results

*This month: industrial investment plans for 1983*

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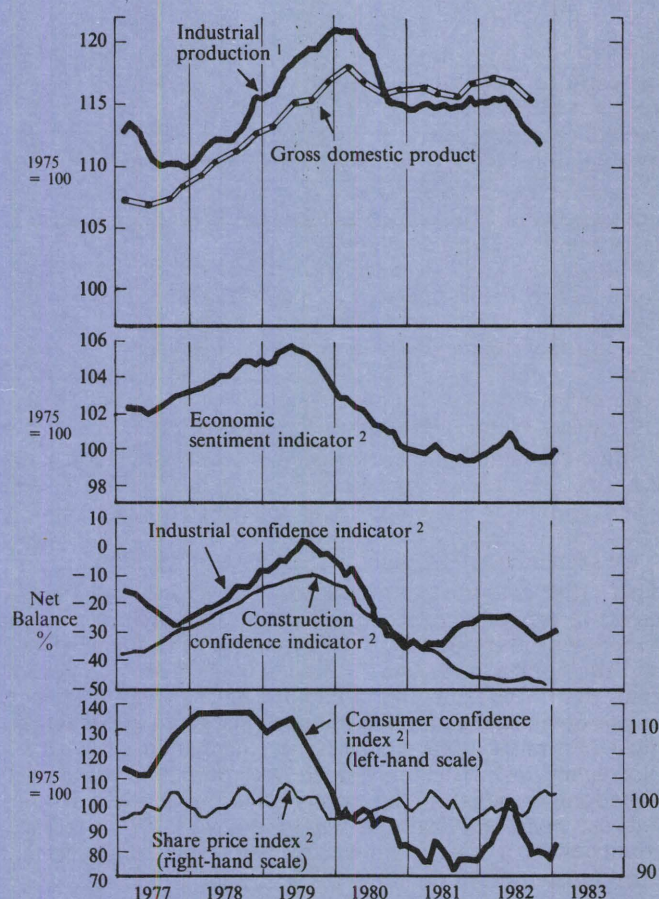
**Moderate improvement in economic expectations.** — A small but widespread improvement in the economic sentiment of consumers, industrialists and investors in the European Community took place at the beginning of this year, following the deterioration which occurred in the second half of 1982. This more positive turn of opinion, indicating that economic agents perceive recessionary tendencies to be moderating, is itself a precondition for recovery. Grounds for a more optimistic forecast of economic activity in 1983 are still slight, since the improvement in European economic opinion is of very recent origin. If, however, the data over the next few months show continually improving sentiment, conditions will be favourable for a strengthening in economic activity. Moreover, a number of factors now exist, tending towards a recovery from recession, which did not prevail at the beginning of 1982 when a pronounced improvement in economic expectations was accompanied by only a moderate and short-lived rise in the production trend. Specifically, interest rates have fallen by several percentage points, oil prices have moderated and stock levels have declined substantially. Added to this, a general decline in inflation is tending to strengthen real income levels and thus consumers' potential demand. In these conditions, the recent improvement in economic sentiment, if sustained, is likely to become a significant factor stimulating expenditure decisions.

### THE ECONOMIC SENTIMENT INDICATOR

This broad indicator of economic expectations in the Community is based on surveys of consumers, heads of business enterprises in industry and construction and on stock exchange prices; it improved by 0,5 percentage points in January 1983, following three months of stability at a very low level (see Graph 1 and Table 1)<sup>1</sup>. Though still below the value reached in the second quarter of 1982, before a renewed decline in confidence began in Europe in the second half of 1982, economic expectations are now better than at their low point of the recession, reached in the final quarter of 1981.

It is noteworthy, too, that the more positive development of economic opinion noted in January affected a wide range of economic agents across the Community. Thus, of the five sources<sup>2</sup> of economic opinion considered here and taking into

GRAPH 1: Indicators of output and economic sentiment — European Community



For footnotes see page 3.

<sup>1</sup> In this context, a change of 0,5% is probably significant since, owing to the scaling methods used in compiling the indicator, movements in it over time are small in absolute terms.  
<sup>2</sup> The industrial, construction and consumer surveys, stock exchange prices and industrial investment plans for 1983 (the latter are not included in the economic sentiment indicator).



TABLE 1: Indicators of output and economic sentiment (indices based on 1975 = 100)<sup>1</sup>

	Trough 1974/75	1980	1981	1982	1982				1982					1983
					I	II	III	IV	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
<b>D</b>														
gross domestic product	99,0	118,9	118,6	:	118,5	118,1	116,6	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
index of industrial production	95,1	118,3	116,0	:	117,3	116,0	112,5	:	113,7	111,6	111,5	108,3	:	:
economic sentiment indicator	99,0	101,5	98,9	98,4	98,5	99,1	98,0	98,1	98,0	97,6	98,1	97,9	98,2	99,0
industrial confidence indicator	-49	-14	-30	-33	-28	-30	-35	-38	-34	-38	-38	-38	-36	-34
construction confidence indicator	-72	-18	-48	-59	-60	-56	-57	-59	-59	-59	-61	-60	-56	-52
consumer confidence index	87	98	83	83	82	80	82	81	82	79	83	81	81	85
share price index	73,9	98,2	100,3	100,1	99,8	100,6	97,1	102,7	95,9	98,6	101,1	101,3	105,6	107,7
<b>F</b>														
gross domestic product	98,5	117,7	118,0	:	119,0	120,3	119,3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
index of industrial production	96,2	117,5	114,3	:	112,6	114,3	112,0	:	111,4	112,3	113,7	113,3	:	:
economic sentiment indicator	97,0	100,9	98,6	98,4	99,9	99,5	97,1	96,9	96,8	96,9	96,9	97,0	97,0	97,0
industrial confidence indicator	-49	-15	-30	-17	-16	-13	-18	-20	:	-20	-20	-19	-19	-19
construction confidence indicator	:	-21	-36	-49	-45	-49	-50	-50	:	:	-50	:	:	:
consumer confidence index <sup>2</sup>	92	91	94	96	98	98	95	91	:	:	:	:	:	:
share price index	75,7	141,2	124,9	124,2	127,2	128,1	118,2	123,4	115,8	120,8	121,4	124,2	124,5	124,3
<b>I</b>														
gross domestic product	93,1	120,8	120,6	:	123,0	121,2	117,5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
index of industrial production	91,6	127,9	124,7	:	124,7	124,3	121,2	:	119,9	120,5	116,7	117,4	:	:
economic sentiment indicator	98,3	103,9	104,2	104,0	105,5	105,3	103,3	102,0	103,5	103,1	101,8	101,7	102,4	102,2
industrial confidence indicator	-59	-13	-31	-31	-28	-27	-33	-36	-35	-34	-38	-37	-35	-36
construction confidence indicator	-56	-22	-18	-29	-21	-29	-26	-26	-15	-26	-33	-51	-33	-43
consumer confidence index <sup>2</sup>	91	108	107	112	117	118	109	104	109	108	103	104	104	104
share price index	96,5	120,3	182,6	147,2	162,8	147,9	136,7	141,4	141,0	140,6	140,8	139,9	143,4	143,7
<b>UK</b>														
gross domestic product	98,1	108,5	106,3	:	107,8	106,9	107,0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
index of industrial production	96,7	108,2	103,1	:	104,8	103,8	105,5	:	106,3	106,0	105,3	103,9	:	:
economic sentiment indicator <sup>1</sup>	:	98,0	97,8	98,7	98,0	98,7	98,9	99,1	98,8	98,9	99,1	99,2	98,8	99,2
industrial confidence indicator	:	-43	-33	-25	-11	-24	-25	-28	-27	-27	-27	-30	-27	-25
construction confidence indicator	:	-30	-51	-42	-49	-45	-38	-38	:	:	-38	:	:	-31
consumer confidence index	93	104	104	118	106	122	121	122	121	120	123	125	118	123
share price index	41,4	177,5	200,1	231,7	211,6	222,1	232,4	260,6	228,5	245,2	257,4	265,5	258,8	264,9
<b>EC</b>														
gross domestic product <sup>3,4</sup>	99,0	116,8	116,3	:	117,3	117,0	115,6	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
index of industrial production	96,8	117,2	114,2	:	114,7	114,5	112,2	:	112,1	112,0	111,2	109,7	:	:
economic sentiment indicator	98,0	101,7	99,8	100,1	100,1	100,8	99,9	99,7	99,9	99,6	99,7	99,7	99,6	100,1
industrial confidence indicator	-49	-20	-31	-27	-24	-24	-28	-30	-28	-30	-30	-30	-29	-28
construction confidence indicator	:	-23	-39	-43	-45	-47	-45	-48	(-43)	(-46)	-47	(-50)	(-46)	:
consumer confidence index	96	99	94	97	96	101	96	94	96	94	95	95	93	96
share price index	65,1	138,6	152,1	166,1	158,1	162,6	164,4	179,4	162,4	171,3	177,6	181,0	179,6	181,9

<sup>1</sup> 1977 = 100 for the UK economic sentiment indicator.<sup>2</sup> Quarterly series are constructed by attributing results of the January, May and October surveys to the first, second and fourth quarters respectively. Third quarter data are interpolated between second and fourth quarter values.<sup>3</sup> Weighted total of quarterly figures for the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy and UK.<sup>4</sup> For the Federal Republic of Germany, gross national product.

account the six Member States<sup>1</sup> for which many or all of these indicators are available, in 19 out of 25 cases opinion was more positive (or less pessimistic) in January 1983 than in the preceding month (see Graphs 1-7 and Table 3).

The Federal Republic of Germany shows the clearest signs of revival in economic expectations, having had two successive months of improvement in the economic sentiment indicator, in December 1982 and January 1983 (see Graph 2 and Table 1). Although the level of confidence is still low, it has recovered substantially (by 1,4 percentage points) since September 1982, the lowest point reached by the economic sentiment indicator in the course of the present recession. Moreover, the more positive turn of economic opinion has affected the whole range of economic agents covered by the indicator in Germany: heads of enterprises, consumers and stock-exchange investors.

A similar though slightly less marked recovery has taken place in economic sentiment in the Netherlands (Graph 7 and Table 7), where economic expectations as measured by the economic sentiment indicator have improved by 1,1 percentage points since September 1982, mainly due to the stock market.

Two other countries showed slight but widespread improvements in economic expectations in January, namely, Belgium (+0,5 percentage points in the economic sentiment indicator) and the United Kingdom (+3 percentage points). These two countries differ from the remainder of those covered by the indicator<sup>2</sup> in that economic opinion seems to have reached its most pessimistic state much earlier there than elsewhere—in November 1981 in Belgium and in December 1980 in the United Kingdom. Production has been on a moderately rising, if uneven, trend (especially in Belgium) since 1981 in these two countries, at a time when the recession has been deepening elsewhere in the Community.

The economic sentiment indicator for France has been stable (Graph 3 and Table 1) for the three months to January, 1983. Only investment plans have shown recent positive tendencies (see Table 3), with a nominal increase of 7% projected for industrial capital spending in 1983.

In Italy economic expectations were slightly more gloomy in January 1983 than in the preceding month (Graph 4 and Table 1), though the last three months have on the whole seen some lessening of pessimism and the recessionary trough in expectations may have been passed. Economic opinion in the construction sector has improved substantially, with a rise of 10 percentage points in the construction confidence index (Table 8) in January.

**Industrial investment spending plans for 1983.** — Investment intentions of industrialists for 1983, though still weak, have improved by comparison with 1982 (see Tables 3 and 4). For Community industry as a whole, the survey estimate for industrial investment in 1982 indicates an increase of 1% in current money values which, after deflation by the appropriate price index, implies a decline of nearly 8% in real terms. The prospects for 1983 are considerably less pessimistic, with a predicted industrial investment growth of 5% in current values; after deflation, this implies a further but markedly less important decline (-2,5%) than in 1982.

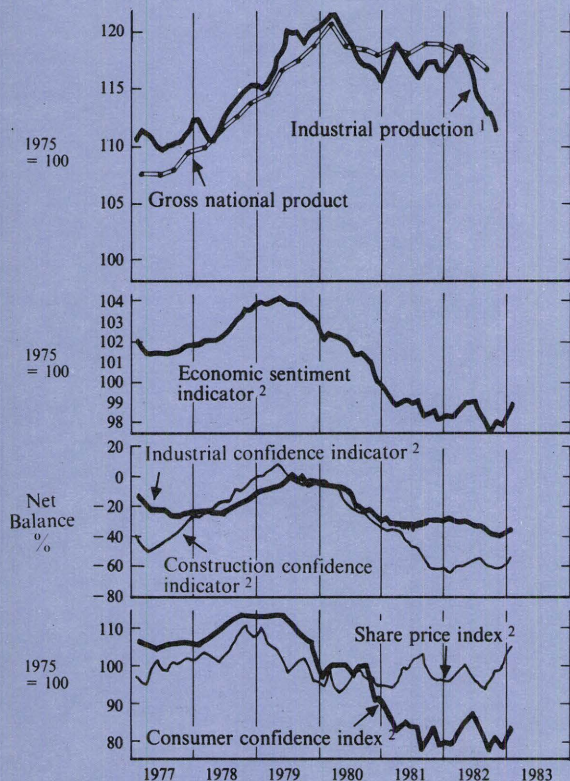
Investment spending plans, at current prices, suggest increases of between 3% and 17% in 1983 in the Member States, with the exception of Belgium and Greece where falls (of 7% and 23% respectively) in investment outlays are projected. However, after allowing for price rises, a real growth in investment activity is likely to occur only in the United Kingdom. The latter is not surprising, in view of the fact that the United Kingdom is farther along the road towards recovery from the recession than the other Member States. Elsewhere in the Community industrialists expect a real decline in investment, notably in the Federal Republic of Germany (-0,5%), in France (-3%) and in Italy (-1%).

<sup>1</sup> Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.<sup>2</sup> Owing to lack of data, such indicators have not yet been calculated for Denmark, Greece, Ireland and Luxembourg.

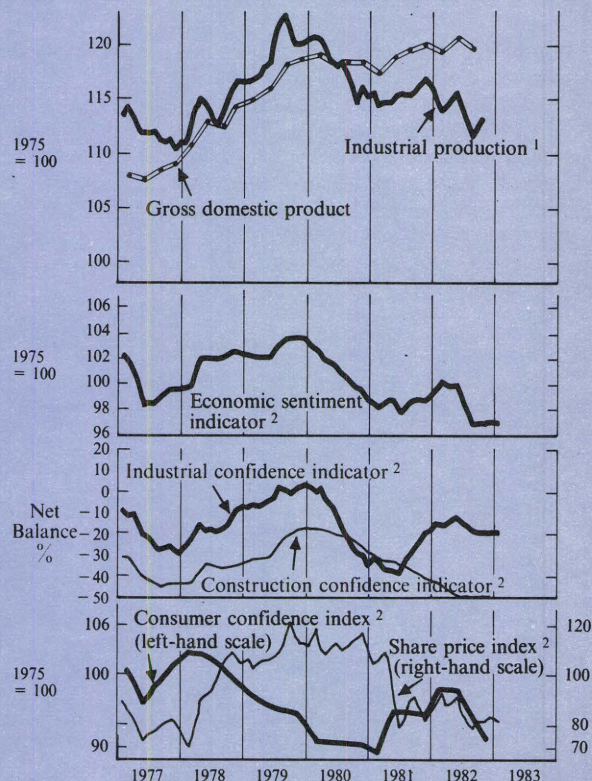


GRAPH 2: Indicators of output and economic sentiment in four Member States

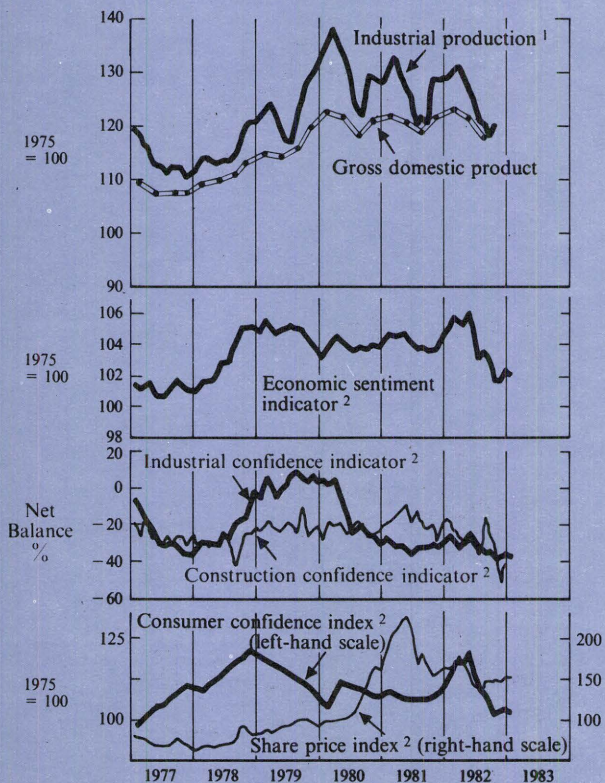
### Federal Republic of Germany



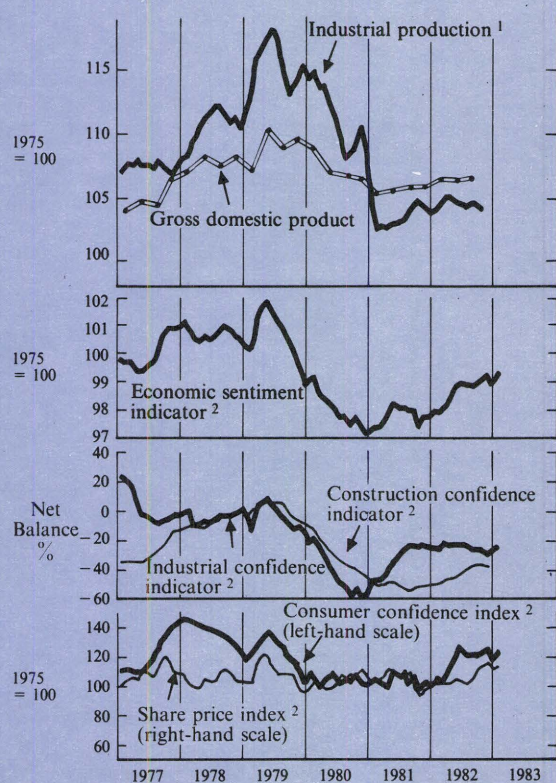
### France



### Italy



### United Kingdom



<sup>1</sup> Three-month moving average.

<sup>2</sup> See notes on page 8.

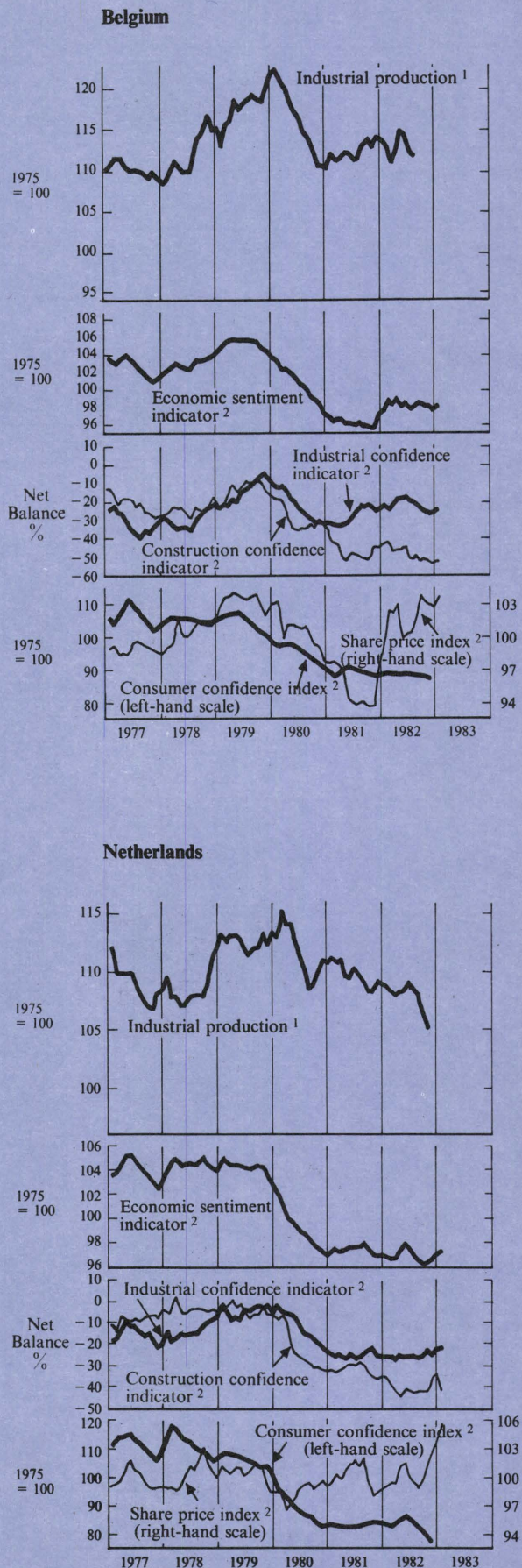


**Improvement in new industrial orders and export-orders expectations.** — The January industrial survey suggests an improvement in the flow of new orders to Community industry. The net balance<sup>1</sup> of chief executives considering new orders to be below normal fell by 8 percentage points in January, by comparison with October, 1982 (see Table 5). The most notable improvement in new orders' assessments was in the Federal Republic of Germany (+20 percentage points), the United Kingdom (+17 percentage points) and in Denmark (+24 percentage points).

Export volume expectations improved in January 1983 (by comparison with October 1982) in the Federal Republic of Germany, France, the United Kingdom (all +7 percentage points), Italy (+6 percentage points) and in Luxembourg (+10 percentage points). By contrast, in the Netherlands and in Ireland, export expectations worsened markedly, by 23 percentage points and 5 percentage points, respectively. The overall improvement in export volume expectations at the Community level is only 2 percentage points, taking January 1983 by comparison with the preceding October.

Brussels, 16 February 1983.

GRAPH 3: Indicators of output and economic sentiment in two Member States



<sup>1</sup> Three-month moving average.  
<sup>2</sup> See notes on page 8.

<sup>1</sup> The statistical measure used to present the results of questions in the European Community business surveys is the difference between the percentages of respondents giving 'positive' and 'negative' replies. Increasing or upward trends in production, order-books, stocks and selling prices are all counted as 'positive' (+ in the tables) and vice versa for 'negative' responses (- in the tables). For the purpose of interpretation, an increase in stocks is considered to be a negative development. The difference between the percentages of 'positive' and 'negative' responses are called in the text 'majorities' or 'net balances' (of  $\pm \dots\%$ ). The monthly and quarterly data in the tables are seasonally adjusted, except where otherwise stated.

**TABLE 2: Monthly survey of manufacturing industry** — Monthly questions and the composite industrial confidential indicator (a)  
 Net balances: i.e. differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (s.a.) (b)

		Range (c)		1980	1981	1982	1982				1982					1983
		Peak	Trough				I	II	III	IV	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
		1972/73	1974/75													
<b>B</b>	production expectations	+31	-56	-24	-26	-18	-18	-12	-16	-25	-18	-18	-25	-24	-25	-24
	order-books	+13	-74	-31	-45	-40	-42	-38	-37	-41	-36	-40	-38	-42	-43	-38
	export order-books	+15	-82	-36	-47	-40	-41	-38	-39	-49	-37	-41	-42	-42	-38	-38
	stocks of finished products	-14	+37	+11	+11	+8	+8	+3	+10	+11	+9	+10	+13	+13	+9	+10
	selling-price expectations	+64	-10	+20	+29	+28	+34	+33	+23	+23	+20	+24	+24	+22	+24	+23
	industrial confidence indicator	+19	-56	-22	-27	-22	-23	-18	-21	-26	-21	-23	-25	-26	-26	-24
<b>DK</b>	production expectations	:	:	-4	-3	+3	-14	+16	-7	+16	:	:	:	:	:	:
	order-books	:	:	-6	-24	-17	-15	-14	-23	-17	:	:	:	:	:	:
	export order-books	:	:	+9	-8	-4	-1	-3	-12	-1	:	:	:	:	:	:
	stocks of finished products	:	:	+16	+17	+16	+11	+15	+19	+18	:	:	:	:	:	:
	industrial confidence indicator	:	:	-9	-15	-10	-13	-4	-16	-6	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>D</b>	production expectations	+17	-32	-10	-17	-20	-14	-14	-22	-28	-21	-28	-30	-25	-25	-19
	order-books	+5	-73	-21	-46	-53	-48	-51	-56	-57	-55	-57	-57	-59	-55	-57
	export order-books (d)	+23	-33	-4	-1	-7	-1	-3	-9	-13	-13	-19	-15	-12	-13	-14
	stocks of finished products	-7	+43	+11	+26	+26	+23	+25	+27	+29	+26	+28	+28	+31	+27	+25
	selling-price expectations	+55	+4	+26	+32	+18	+24	+19	+17	+12	+16	+16	+17	+10	+9	+4
	industrial confidence indicator	+10	-49	-14	-30	-33	-28	-30	-35	-38	-34	-38	-38	-38	-36	-34
<b>F</b>	production expectations	+33	-29	-6	-11	-4	+2	+1	-5	-13	:	-10	-14	-12	-12	-11
	order-books	+26	-69	-22	-46	-30	-30	-28	-33	-30	:	-36	-31	-28	-30	-30
	export order-books	+24	-66	-29	-47	-36	-35	-36	-34	-40	:	-38	-42	-40	-38	-41
	stocks of finished products	-14	+50	+17	+34	+16	+19	+13	+16	+16	:	+14	+14	+18	+15	+16
	selling-price expectations	+76	+15	+50	+54	+49	+52	+54	+30	+60	:	+43	+60	+64	+55	+45
	industrial confidence indicator	+29	-49	-15	-30	-17	-16	-13	-18	-20	:	-20	-20	-19	-19	-19
<b>IRL</b>	production expectations	:	-21	-12	-1	-4	+1	+1	-8	-8	-3	-13	-11	0	-13	+5
	order-books	:	-68	-50	-36	-39	-38	-26	-45	-47	-2	-51	-47	-43	-52	-53
	export order-books	:	-22	-6	+2	-7	-10	+2	-14	-4	-7	-23	+1	-10	-3	-11
	stocks of finished products	:	+35	+31	+16	+14	+9	+9	+21	+18	+16	+24	+18	+20	+17	+15
	selling-price expectations	:	+64	+43	+41	+35	+47	+40	+27	+26	+21	+25	+25	+29	+24	+30
	industrial confidence indicator	:	-41	-31	-18	-19	-15	-11	-25	-24	-20	-29	-25	-21	-27	-21
<b>I</b>	production expectations	+40	-43	-7	-16	-15	-8	-8	-19	-24	-20	-22	-26	-21	-24	-20
	order-books	+30	-82	-22	-49	-53	-53	-49	-53	-58	-58	-52	-55	-63	-57	-63
	export order-books	+13	-67	-37	-45	-49	-46	-45	-51	-53	-49	-55	-52	-56	-50	-54
	stocks of finished products	-24	+53	+11	+28	+25	+24	+23	+28	+27	+26	+28	+32	+27	+23	+26
	selling-price expectations	+76	+10	+63	+59	+50	+50	+48	+54	+48	+54	+56	+48	+48	+47	+42
	industrial confidence indicator	+31	-59	-13	-31	-31	-28	-27	-33	-36	-35	-34	-38	-37	-35	-36
<b>L</b>	production expectations	+84	-80	-33	-39	-40	-37	-43	-45	-36	-39	-56	-39	-33	-35	-47
	order-books	:	:	-42	-62	-60	-68	-49	-62	-68	-58	-65	-65	-66	-72	-58
	export order-books	:	:	-52	-81	:	-59	-78	-77	-78	-75	-81	-84	-69	-82	-61
	stocks of finished products	-14	+74	+63	+28	+14	+11	+7	+13	+25	+10	+14	+18	+8	+50	+47
	selling-price expectations	:	-46	+8	+60	+10	+69	+9	-23	-14	-29	-35	-33	+3	-13	+19
	industrial confidence indicator	:	:	-46	-43	-38	-32	-37	-39	-43	-36	-45	-41	-36	-52	-51
<b>NL</b>	production expectations	+26	-26	-3	-6	-5	-3	-1	-5	-9	-5	-7	-6	-13	-8	-4
	order-books	+7	-48	-20	-37	-39	-38	-40	-41	-36	-40	-41	-33	-38	-38	-42
	stocks of finished products	-3	+57	+15	+32	+33	+38	+36	+32	+24	+33	+29	+24	+25	+22	+20
	industrial confidence indicator	+12	-44	-13	-25	-26	-26	-26	-26	-23	-26	-26	-21	-25	-23	-22
<b>UK</b>	production expectations	:	:	-30	-4	+1	+5	+1	+1	-5	-1	0	-4	-4	-6	-4
	order-books	:	:	-65	-69	-54	-54	-52	-53	-56	-52	-54	-52	-59	-57	-52
	export order-books	:	:	-45	-55	-48	-44	-46	-50	-53	-52	-50	-48	-58	-54	-52
	stocks of finished products	:	:	+34	+27	+23	+24	+21	+24	+23	+27	+27	+24	+26	+18	+19
	selling-price expectations	:	:	+36	+25	+27	+37	+26	+27	+17	+24	+22	+17	+15	+18	+16
	industrial confidence indicator	:	:	-43	-33	-25	-11	-24	-25	-28	-27	-27	-27	-30	-27	-25
<b>EC (e)</b>	production expectations	+24	-30	-13	-13	-11	-6	-6	-13	-17	-13	-17	-18	-16	-17	-15
	order-books	+15	-70	-31	-51	-47	-45	-45	-49	-49	-48	-50	-48	-50	-50	-49
	export order-books	+14	-48	-24	-31	-30	-26	-27	-31	-34	-31	-36	-34	-35	-33	-34
	stocks of finished products	-10	+48	+17	+28	+22	+22	+20	+23	+23	+24	+23	+24	+25	+21	+21
	selling-price expectations	+64	+9	+38	+40	+32	+38	+33	+28	+30	+26	+30	+32	+30	+29	+22
	industrial confidence indicator	+16	-49	-20	-31	-27	-24	-24	-28	-30	-28	-30	-30	-30	-29	-28

(a) The indicator is an average of the responses (net balances) to the questions on the production expectations, order-books and stocks (the latter with inverted sign).

(b) Details of the questions are given on the last page.

(c) These are the extreme (high and low) values of the net balances of the different questions, reached in the course of 1972/73 and 1974/75, respectively.

(d) The series for the Federal Republic of Germany concerns the export outlook, rather than orders as such.

(e) Not including Greece, where the survey time series are too short to permit an analysis of trends. (The Community survey was extended to Greece at the beginning of 1981.)

Note: (s.a.) = seasonally adjusted.

: = not available.

The annual and quarterly figures are averages of the corresponding monthly data. The seasonal adjustment applied to the most recent observations is provisional, so that such data are subject to later revision.

Source: European Community business surveys.

**TABLE 3: Industrial investment survey by branch**  
Results of the Oct./Nov. 1982 investment survey, % change in value, over the preceding year

	Basic materials industries (a)		Metallurgical industries		Mechanical industries		Processing industries (b)		Extractive industries		Food industries		Total, all industry	
	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983
B	+14	-5	+4	-7	+16	-10	-3	-14	:	:	+2	+4	+10	-7
D	-5	-4	-4	-1	0	+7	-9	+2	+11	0	-6	+5	-2	+3
GR	-14	-54	-28	-4	-7	+53	-22	-5	:	:	-32	+14	-19	-23
F	+1	+3	+11	+34	+5	+9	+7	+2	+4	-7	+5	+11	+4	+7
IRL	-8	-5	-73	-40	+33	-16	-20	+55	:	:	+83	-18	0	+5
I	-11	+15	+27	+23	+20	+8	-5	+8	-45	+16	0	+19	+8	+13
L	-35	-10	-6	+1	+30	+44	+164	+58	:	:	:	:	+1	+17
NL	-6	+26	-14	+7	-2	-5	-7	0	+38	+23	-8	+8	-1	+11
UK	-11	+10	-12	-1	:	+4	-1	-1	:	:	+4	+2	-4	+5
EC (e)	-5	+4	+1	+4	+4	+6	-2	+1	:	:	0	+7	+1	+5

**TABLE 4: Industrial investment survey — all branches**  
% change in value in relation to preceding year

Year to which data relate:		1978				1979				1980				1981				1982				1983	
Date of survey:		Oct./ Nov. 1977	March/ April 1978	Oct./ Nov. 1978	March/ April 1979	Oct./ Nov. 1978	March/ April 1979	Oct./ Nov. 1979	March/ April 1980	Oct./ Nov. 1979	March/ April 1980	Oct./ Nov. 1980	March/ April 1981	Oct./ Nov. 1980	March/ April 1981	Oct./ Nov. 1981	March/ April 1982	Oct./ Nov. 1981	March/ April 1982	Oct./ Nov. 1982	Oct./ Nov. 1982		
B (c)	:	- 1	- 6	- 4	:	+ 15	+ 12	+ 16	+ 30	+ 41	+ 30	+ 36	+ 3	+ 8	+ 4	+ 4	- 9	- 3	+ 10	- 7			
D	+	7	+ 8	+ 10	+ 9	+ 9	+ 11	+ 13	+ 14	+ 12	+ 15	+ 15	+ 16	+ 4	+ 2	0	- 1	0	0	- 2	+ 3		
GR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	+ 38	+ 42	- 2	- 6	- 19	- 23		
F	+ 12	+ 12	+ 9	+ 8	+ 15	+ 16	+ 10	+ 10	+ 15	+ 16	+ 16	+ 16	+ 6	+ 5	- 1	+ 3	+ 6	+ 5	+ 4	+ 7			
IRL (c)	+ 21	+ 41	+ 36	+ 43	- 26	+ 29	+ 19	+ 19	+ 12	+ 6,5	- 3,5	+ 8	+ 2	- 22	- 16	- 26	+ 33	+ 54	0	+ 5			
I	+ 10	+ 2	- 0,5	+ 6	+ 24	+ 19	+ 5	+ 10	+ 26	+ 31	+ 7	+ 10	+ 47	+ 17	+ 14	+ 10	:	+ 6	+ 8	+ 13			
L (d)	+ 6	+ 48	+ 23	+ 22	+ 27	- 1	+ 22	- 5	- 5	+ 7	- 12,5	+ 17	0	- 8	+ 17	- 10	- 20	+ 24	+ 1	+ 17			
NL	+ 3	+ 6	+ 4	+ 3	- 5	+ 4	+ 1	0	+ 13	+ 18	+ 15	+ 17	- 7	- 2	- 6	- 8	- 2	+ 6	- 1	+ 11			
UK (c)	+ 26	+ 26	+ 19	+ 19	+ 18	+ 15	+ 9	+ 12	+ 4	+ 2	+ 6	+ 5	- 7	- 6	- 11	- 11	+ 7	+ 5	- 4	+ 5			
EC (e)	+ 12	+ 11	+ 9	+ 9	- 13	+ 14	+ 10	+ 11	+ 14	+ 16	+ 13	+ 14	+ 6	+ 3	- 1	- 1	+ 3	+ 3	+ 1	+ 5			

- (a) Chemicals, man-made fibres, petroleum refining, rubber processing, etc.  
(b) Manufacture of textiles, footwear, wood, paper, together with the printing and processing of plastics industries.  
(c) Excluding the extractive industries.  
(d) Excluding the extractive and food industries.  
(e) Weighted total of the above (not given when data are substantially incomplete).  
Source: European Community business surveys.

**TABLE 5: New orders and export volume expectations in manufacturing industry (a)**  
Net balances: i.e., differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (b)

	1980				1981				1982				1983
	Jan.	April	July	Oct.	Jan.	April	July	Oct.	Jan.	April	July	Oct.	Jan.
New orders (c)													
B	- 9	- 6	-23	-21	-20	-15	-11	- 7	- 5	- 6	- 4	-10	- 9
DK	- 1	+ 6	-15	- 3	-16	+ 3	+ 3	- 7	-10	+11	+ 4	- 5	+19
D	+13	+ 7	-30	-14	-22	- 9	-21	- 4	-20	+ 3	-24	-28	- 8
F	+12	+11	- 3	-24	-34	-37	-27	-19	- 8	-16	- 4	-24	-21
IRL	-30	-38	-55	-40	-29	-26	-15	+ 5	-22	-17	-46	-37	-47
I	- 3	+ 9	-31	-13	-21	- 8	-16	-11	-33	- 5	-18	- 8	-26
L	-15	- 7	-59	-45	-55	-50	-43	+18	- 2	-10	-52	-66	-52
NL	-15	+13	-17	0	- 7	+ 1	-14	+14	-16	+ 8	0	+10	-10
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	- 8	- 3	- 3	-20	-32	-15
EC-9	+ 7	+ 8	-21	-17	-25	-17	-21	- 9	-14	- 4	-16	-23	-15
Export volume expectations (c)													
D	+ 5	+ 2	-16	-10	- 6	0	- 2	- 2	0	+ 5	-10	-19	-12
F	- 9	+ 3	-25	-31	-23	-17	-15	-12	- 7	-11	-16	-26	-19
IRL	+ 6	+ 9	-31	-15	+11	- 4	-13	+ 5	+ 3	+ 3	+ 2	+ 2	- 3
I	- 1	+ 5	-19	-17	+ 1	- 1	+ 5	+ 9	+ 8	+ 3	- 5	-13	- 7
L	- 7	- 1	-75	-83	-65	-69	- 3	- 4	+ 4	-10	-65	-74	-64
NL	+ 5	-11	-15	+18	0	+10	- 1	0	- 5	+ 9	- 7	+16	- 7
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	+12	+ 5	+ 5	- 3	- 6	+ 1
EC-7	+ 1	+ 1	-18	-12	- 8	- 3	- 4	0	- 1	+ 2	- 8	-12	-10

- (a) Since these questions have been included in the Community business survey only since 1979, the time series available is relatively short.  
(b) Not adjusted for seasonality.  
(c) Details of the questions are given on the last page.  
Source: European Community business surveys.

TABLE 6: Indicators of output and economic sentiment  
BELGIUM

		1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Index of industrial production 1975=100										
year		100,0	107,8	109,2	110,9	116,0	115,4	110,9		
quarter	I	104,4	103,7	110,1	107,7	111,9	121,4	111,0		
	II	98,5	108,8	109,3	109,1	117,5	117,2	111,2	113,7	
	III	97,5	108,6	109,0	111,2	117,5	113,9	110,3	110,7	
	IV	99,0	110,0	108,7	115,8	117,2	109,3	111,3		
month	1	104,8	102,8	110,6	106,8	108,5	122,6	111,6	118,1	
	2	103,6	105,7	109,9	107,2	113,5	119,7	111,6	111,3	
	3	104,8	102,6	109,8	109,1	113,6	121,8	109,7	106,0	
	4	96,8	109,6	111,5	111,1	117,1	116,7	109,4	112,2	
	5	100,4	108,5	109,5	110,4	114,6	118,3	112,4	114,9	
	6	98,3	108,2	106,7	105,9	120,8	116,7	111,8	114,1	
	7	88,2	108,7	110,3	109,3	113,6	113,2	109,0	110,8	
	8	97,6	107,3	110,2	110,6	117,2	117,5	110,5	108,0	
	9	96,6	109,8	106,3	113,7	121,8	111,0	111,3	113,4	
	10	96,6	110,3	109,1	114,6	115,6	110,9	113,2		
	11	102,6	113,3	108,5	112,3	115,5	112,9	112,6		
	12	97,8	106,4	108,5	120,3	120,6	104,1	108,2		
Economic sentiment indicator <sup>1</sup> 1975=100										
year		100,0	104,8	102,6	102,8	105,1	100,8	96,2	98,3	
quarter	I	99,0	104,8	103,1	102,3	104,7	103,0	96,6	98,3	
	II	100,6	105,5	103,7	102,6	105,7	101,8	96,2	98,2	
	III	99,8	105,1	102,3	102,8	105,5	100,1	96,0	98,6	
	IV	100,6	104,0	103,2	103,6	104,5	98,2	96,1	98,0	
month	1	99,0	103,9	103,4	102,0	104,2	98,6	97,0	98,6	98,3
	2	98,8	104,8	103,1	102,4	104,8	103,2	96,3	98,7	
	3	99,1	105,7	102,8	102,4	105,0	102,2	96,5	98,5	
	4	100,1	105,6	103,7	103,0	105,8	102,3	96,5	99,0	
	5	101,1	105,6	103,9	102,6	105,6	101,8	96,0	98,2	
	6	100,5	105,2	103,4	102,3	105,7	101,2	96,0	98,5	
	7	100,1	105,5	102,8	102,2	105,6	100,6	96,0	97,8	
	8	99,8	104,9	102,2	103,2	105,5	100,2	96,2	98,3	
	9	99,5	104,8	101,8	103,2	105,5	99,5	95,8	98,6	
	10	99,7	103,9	101,2	103,3	105,0	98,7	95,7	98,2	
	11	100,2	104,0	100,9	103,5	104,4	98,5	95,6	98,0	
	12	102,0	104,0	101,4	103,9	104,2	97,4	97,1	97,7	
Industrial confidence indicator <sup>2</sup>										
year		-46	-20	-31	-30	-14	-22	-27	-22	
quarter	I	-45	-21	-24	-30	-22	-11	-32	-23	
	II	-50	-19	-31	-34	-18	-17	-40	-17	
	III	-52	-19	-37	-30	-11	-26	-23	-21	
	IV	-36	-21	-33	-23	-6	-31	-23	-26	
month	1	-42	-24	-24	-29	-22	-11	-31	-22	-24
	2	-45	-22	-22	-30	-21	-13	-32	-24	
	3	-48	-17	-27	-32	-23	-11	-32	-22	
	4	-51	-18	-27	-35	-19	-13	-32	-18	
	5	-48	-19	-31	-34	-21	-18	-32	-18	
	6	-50	-21	-36	-34	-15	-21	-28	-17	
	7	-53	-18	-38	-35	-14	-25	-25	-20	
	8	-53	-19	-39	-29	-12	-26	-22	-21	
	9	-50	-19	-35	-28	-8	-29	-23	-23	
	10	-43	-19	-37	-24	-7	-31	-22	-25	
	11	-37	-23	-33	-23	-5	-31	-24	-26	
	12	-28	-20	-30	-22	-7	-32	-24	-25	
Construction confidence indicator <sup>2</sup>										
year		-24	-10	-21	-24	-14	-28	-47	-48	
quarter	I	-17	-12	-17	-26	-21	-19	-40	-44	
	II	-26	-9	-18	-24	-13	-31	-50	-45	
	III	-29	-7	-23	-25	-10	-34	-50	-51	
	IV	-24	-11	-28	-21	-12	-32	-47	-52	
month	1	-12	-15	-13	-28	-23	-18	-35	-42	-52
	2	-18	-13	-16	-26	-22	-19	-43	-42	
	3	-22	-8	-22	-23	-17	-21	-43	-47	
	4	-27	-11	-17	-23	-11	-25	-51	-46	
	5	-25	-9	-18	-23	-14	-33	-51	-45	
	6	-26	-7	-19	-26	-13	-36	-48	-43	
	7	-29	-7	-22	-29	-9	-34	-49	-52	
	8	-30	-9	-20	-22	-10	-35	-49	-49	
	9	-29	-6	-26	-24	-10	-32	-52	-52	
	10	-26	-8	-26	-26	-8	-34	-50	-50	
	11	-26	-11	-28	-26	-13	-30	-45	-52	
	12	-21	-13	-28	-16	-16	-31	-45	-54	
Consumer confidence index <sup>4</sup> 1975=100										
year		100	110	107	106	105	96	90	89	
quarter	I	97	107	105	106	107	98	88	89	
	II	104	112	112	107	108	99	82	89	
	III	102	111	107	106	105	95	90	89	
	IV	99	109	103	105	101	92	89	88	
Share price index 1975=100										
year		100,0	95,4	88,5	89,8	96,9	87,2	71,1	87,1	
quarter	I	96,9	105,8	89,6	87,2	97,1	92,1	77,6	86,3	
	II	105,1	97,1	88,3	88,0	98,7	88,7	70,3	85,4	
	III	102,7	92,1	89,5	92,1	97,7	86,8	66,6	87,0	
	IV	97,8	86,7	86,7	91,9	94,3	81,0	69,7	89,7	
month	1	94,1	107,3	90,2	96,0	94,9	95,2	77,8	80,5	91,4
	2	98,3	106,1	90,8	87,5	98,2	95,4	78,1	89,7	
	3	98,2	104,0	87,8	88,0	98,3	95,8	77,0	88,6	
	4	105,6	100,6	87,8	95,0	99,6	89,2	75,6	90,8	
	5	106,3	96,1	87,2	89,8	98,5	89,0	68,6	82,2	
	6	103,5	94,6	89,9	89,2	98,0	88,0	66,8	83,1	
	7	104,3	95,2	90,8	90,3	97,0	87,5	66,3	82,9	
	8	104,2	91,2	89,4	92,4	97,9	87,9	67,1	85,8	
	9	99,7	90,0	88,2	93,5	98,1	85,0	66,5	92,2	
	10	95,5	82,8	87,7	91,8	95,4	82,8	65,4	90,4	
	11	98,0	87,9	96,6	92,3	92,4	81,9	66,2	89,9	
	12	100,0	89,5	95,7	91,6	95,2	78,2	77,4	88,9	

TABLE 7: Indicators of output and economic sentiment  
NETHERLANDS

		1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Index of industrial production 1975=100										
year		100,0	107,5	108,5	108,4	112,6	112,6	110,3		
quarter	I	101,4	105,3	109,4	108,6	112,4	115,9	111,6	108,0	
	II	99,0	107,3	110,0	106,4	112,9	113,5	109,8	107,9	
	III	95,6	107,4	107,1	107,2	112,3	109,2	109,8	107,9	
	IV	102,2	110,1	107,6	111,2	112,8	111,7	110,0		
month	1	99,8	104,9	110,7	107,1	112,3	116,3	108,6	109,0	
	2	101,3	105,3	108,8	108,2	112,2	112,3	113,7	106,5	
	3	103,1	105,7	108,8	107,1	111,9	116,1	108,6	108,0	
	4	100,8	107,1	110,3	107,0	114,0	112,1	109,5	108,0	
	5	97,8	106,3	108,7	105,9	112,2	113,3	108,9	108,0	
	6	98,5	108,5	109,2	106,9	110,6	111,3	108,4	108,0	
	7	95,5	105,4	108,8	109,1	111,7	109,2	111,4	110,0	
	8	94,4	106,0	105,4	106,5	110,4	109,3	107,2	106,0	
	9	97,0	110,9	107,0	107,0	112,6	105,9	106,9	107,0	
	10	97,7	107,7	106,8	108,9	111,8	109,9	109,7	105,0	
	11	102,3	106,9	105,0	109,6	114,7	112,1	106,9	102,0	
	12	106,6	115,6	111,7	113,9	108,8	109,9	109,5		
Economic sentiment indicator <sup>1</sup> 1975=100										
year		100,0	102,8	104,0	104,6	104,2	99,2	97,5	97,0	
quarter	I	99,7	102,6	104,0	104,7	104,8	101,4	97,4	96,8	
	II	100,4	103,4	105,1	104,6	104,4	99,5	97,6	97,7	
	III	99,9	102,7	103,8	104,7	104,3	98,4	97,8	96,6	
	IV	100,0	102,4	103,0	104,2	103,4	97,4	97,1	96,9	
month	1	99,3	102,0	103,5	104,4	105,0	102,2	97,3	96,9	97,4
	2	99,4	103,3	103,8	104,9	104,8	101,7	97,4	96,7	
	3	100,3	102,5	104,6	104,9	104,5	100,4	97,3	96,8	
	4	100,2	103,6	105,3	104,5	104,5	99,8	97,4	97,6	
	5	100,5	103,4	105,3	104,5	104,4	99,4	97,7	98,1	
	6	100,5	103,1	104,8	104,7	104,3	99,1	97,7	97,4	
	7	100,6	103,2	104,2	104,5	104,1	98,7	97,7	96,9	
	8	99,8	102,6	103,7	104,7	104,4	98,5	98,1	96,5	
	9	99,4	102,4	103,4	105,0	104,3	97,9	97,5	96,3	
	10	99,7	102,2	103,0	104,5	104,2	97,6	97,1	96,6	
	11	99,7	102,3	102,5	104,1	103,4	97,4	97,0	96,7	
	12	100,6	102,8	103,5	104,0	102,5	97,0	97,1	97,3	
Industrial confidence indicator <sup>2</sup>										
year		-36	-20	-16	-13	-5	-12	-25	-25	
quarter	I	-33	-25	-17	-16	-5	-4	-25	-27	
	II	-40	-21	-11	-15	-7	-8	-26	-26	
	III	-37	-18	-16	-13	-3	-16	-24	-26	
	IV	-32	-18	-19	-8	-4	-22	-24	-23	
month	1	-33	-28	-19	-13	-1	-2	-24	-26	-22
	2	-34	-22	-18	-18	-5	-5	-26	-26	
	3	-31	-24	-13	-16	-9	-6	-25	-28	
	4	-40	-19	-9	-15	-8	-7	-27	-25	
	5	-43	-20	-12	-15	-9	-7	-25	-26	
	6	-37	-23	-13	-14	-4	-11	-27	-26	
	7	-35	-17	-15	-14	-4	-15	-26	-26	
	8	-40	-20	-17	-13	-3	-16	-24	-26	
	9	-37	-19	-15	-10	-2	-17	-22	-26	
	10	-38	-17	-18	-9	-3	-20	-21	-21	
	11	-28	-19	-21	-9	-2	-21	-26	-25	
	12	-30	-16	-19	-8	-6	-24	-26	-23	
Construction confidence indicator <sup>2</sup>										
year		-26	-19	-8	-4	-4	-24	-32	-41	
quarter	I	-27	-27	-11	-2	-2	-8	-32	-39	
	II	-28	-18	-9	-5	-2	-24	-30	-42	
	III	-24	-15	-8	-4	-6	-29	-30	-42	
	IV	-23	-13	-6	-4	-5	-32	-35	-40	
month	1	-28	-21	-11	-5	-5	-9	-31	-35	-42
	2	-27	-22	-14	-3	-3	-6	-33	-40	
	3	-26	-20	-7	+3	+1	-8	-32	-42	
	4	-28	-18	-9	-5	-2	-20	-30	-44	
	5	-28	-18	-10	-6	-2	-25	-29	-41	
	6	-27	-17	-8	-4	-4	-27	-29	-42	
	7	-24	-19	-9	-4	-7	-27	-28	-42	
	8	-27	-19	-8	-3	-6	-29	-30	-42	
	9	-22	-19	-7	-4	-5	-31	-33	-42	
	10	-25	-14	-6	-4	-2	-31	-36	-42	
	11	-25	-14	-8	-4	-6	-31	-36	-40	
	12	-21	-11	-4	-5	-8	-33	-34	-40	
Consumer confidence index <sup>4</sup> 1975=100										
year		100	108	112	113	107	89	85	84	
quarter	I	98	107	115	120	110	96	85	84	
	II	105	108	116	114	108	91	83	88	
	III	101	108	111	111	106	87	85	84	
	IV	98	108	107	108	104	84	86	78	
Share price index 1975=100										
year		97,0	100,7	96,5	96,9	95,7	89,6	94,7	96,2	
quarter	I	94,4	108,0	95,3	92,5	97,0	87,4	93,8	92,2	
	II	99,9	106,1	101,0	96,2	96,4	88,0	98,2	97,6	
	III	95,9	98,0	96,1	101,7	97,3	91,3	97,2	92,4	
	IV	97,8	90,3	93,4	97,0	92,0	91,9	89,6	102,6	
month	1	88,5	105,8	94,7	92,7	98,5	89,0	92,7	91,4	112,4
	2	96,3	110,1	94,9	93,0	96,9	90,1	95,1	92,8	
	3	98,4	109,4	96,2	91,9	95,9	83,2	93,7	92,5	
	4	100,0	109,3	100,7	92,9	97,3	85,4	96,2	98,2	
	5	101,0	105,8	102,9	96,2	97,0	88,0	98,3	99,7	
	6	98,6	103,2	99,4	99,4	94,8	90,5	100,1	94,9	
	7	98,9	101,7	98,1	98,4	95,7	91,3	98,1	92,5	
	8	97,0	97,6	96,1	101,5	98,3	92,2	100,9	91,4	
	9	91,8	94,8	94,0	105,3	97,8	90,3	92,7	93,2	
	10	98,9	88,8	93,1	100,2	96,2	91,3	88,6	98,5	
	11	94,5	91,0	93,4	96,5	90,7	93,4	89,4	103,3	
	12	100,0	91,1	93,8	94,4	89,2	91,0	90,7	106,2	



**TABLE 8: Survey of the construction industry**

Net balances: i.e. differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (s.a.) (a)

		Range (b)		1980	1981	1982	1982				1982					1983
		Peak 72/73	Trough 74/75				I	II	III	IV	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
B	order-books	-13	-47	-32	-53	-61	-54	-55	-65	-68	-63	-66	-66	-68	-70	-72
	employment expectations	+31	-24	-23	-41	-36	-33	-35	-37	-37	-34	-38	-35	-37	-38	-31
	price expectations	+75	+25	+31	+8	+1	+2	+1	-1	-4	0	-2	-2	-2	-7	-3
	construction confidence indicator	+9	-36	-28	-47	-49	-44	-45	-51	-53	-49	-52	-51	-53	-54	-52
D	order-books	-17	-84	-30	-61	-73	-70	-73	-74	-73	-75	-74	-75	-73	-71	-68
	employment expectations	+10	-60	-7	-35	-44	-50	-39	-40	-45	-42	-43	-46	-47	-41	-36
	price expectations	+48	-37	-5	-41	-28	-38	-39	-23	-12	-21	-22	-16	-10	-9	-9
	construction confidence indicator	-4	-72	-18	-48	-59	-60	-56	-57	-59	-59	-59	-61	-60	-56	-52
F	order-books	:	:	-31	-48	-62	-56	-63	-66	-64	:	:	-64	:	:	:
	employment expectations	:	:	-12	-24	-35	-33	-36	-34	-35	:	:	-35	:	:	:
	price expectations	:	:	-21	-36	-49	-45	-49	-50	-50	:	:	-50	:	:	:
	construction confidence indicator	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	order-books	-25	-68	-33	-29	-44	-37	-46	-42	-51	-33	-43	-45	-62	-46	-55
	employment expectations	+10	-44	-11	-7	-13	-5	-12	-9	-27	+3	-9	-21	-39	-20	-31
	price expectations	+85	+30	+71	+71	+54	+72	+56	+56	+30	+60	+68	+45	+15	+31	+20
	construction confidence indicator	-8	-56	-22	-18	-29	-21	-29	-26	-26	-15	-26	-33	-51	-33	-43
L	order-books	+21	-50	-12	-21	-46	-38	-44	-52	-51	-50	-57	-56	-52	-44	-51
	employment expectations	+31	-39	+6	-6	-25	-29	-29	-23	-17	-31	-8	-13	-19	-17	-32
	price expectations	+82	+11	+45	+30	+17	+25	+9	+20	+12	+29	+14	+10	+10	+15	+14
	construction confidence indicator	+26	-45	-5	-14	-36	-34	-37	-38	-34	-41	-33	-35	-36	-31	-42
NL	order-books	-8	-81	-39	-50	-57	-52	-58	-59	-59	-59	-59	-61	-60	-57	-61
	employment expectations	+14	-13	-8	-14	-25	-25	-27	-25	-21	-25	-25	-22	-19	-22	-23
	price expectations	+3	-47	-24	-32	-41	-39	-43	-42	-40	-42	-42	-42	-40	-40	-42
	construction confidence indicator	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
UK	order-books	:	:	-33	-60	-59	-64	-60	-55	-58	:	:	-58	:	:	-47
	employment expectations	:	:	-27	-42	-25	-34	-30	-19	-18	:	:	-18	:	:	-14
	price expectations	:	:	+53	-16	0	-8	+1	+9	-3	:	:	-3	:	:	+11
	construction confidence indicator	:	:	-30	-51	-42	-49	-45	-38	-38	:	:	-38	:	:	-31
EC (c)	order-books	:	:	-32	-51	-61	-58	-62	-61	-63	(-60)	(-62)	-62	(-65)	(-61)	:
	employment expectations	:	:	-14	-28	-24	-33	-31	-28	-32	(-26)	(-29)	-31	(-35)	(-30)	:
	price expectations	:	:	-23	-39	-43	-45	-47	-45	-48	(-43)	(-46)	-47	(-50)	(-46)	:
	construction confidence indicator	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(a) Details of the questions are given below.

(b) These are the extreme (high and low) values of the net balances of the different questions, reached in the course of 1972/73 and 1974/75, respectively.

(c) Owing to lack of data for certain Member States, Community totals are incomplete.

Note: The annual and quarterly figures are averages of the corresponding monthly data, except for France and the United Kingdom, where the survey is carried out on a quarterly basis. The monthly and related quarterly data are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated; the seasonal adjustment applied to the most recent observations is provisional, so that such data are subject to later revision.

Source: European Community business surveys.

## European Community business surveys

The Community's business surveys, of industry and the construction sector, have been progressively developed since 1962. They are undertaken by national institutions on the basis of the Commission's harmonized questionnaires. The results are communicated to the Commission which processes and publishes the data for Member States and the Community as a whole. The number of enterprises surveyed in manufacturing industry is about 20 000, and in the construction sector about 10 000.

The questions put in the business surveys have the content and periodicity set out below. In general, the questionnaires are sent out at end-month and are returned by the respondents in the course of the following two or three weeks.

### QUESTIONS

#### Manufacturing industry, excluding food, beverages and tobacco

##### Monthly:

- estimate of production trend in recent months: up, unchanged, down?
- order-books: above normal, normal, below normal?
- export order-books: above normal, normal, below normal?
- stocks of finished products: above normal, normal, below normal?
- production expectations for the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- selling price expectations in the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?

##### Quarterly (January, April, July and October):

- employment expectations for the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- limits to production: none, insufficient demand, shortage of labour, lack of equipment?
- production capacity: more than sufficient, sufficient, not sufficient?
- duration of assured production: in months?
- new orders in the recent past: up, unchanged, down?
- export volume expectations for the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- capacity utilization: in %?
- stocks of raw materials: high, normal, low?

#### All industries, including manufacturing, extractive and food

##### Half-yearly (undertaken in March/April and October/November):

- investment trends and prospects: yearly percentage change of investment expenditure in current money values.

### Building industry

Monthly (except for France and the United Kingdom, where the survey is carried out quarterly):

- current production compared with the preceding month: up, unchanged, down?
- factors holding up production: bad weather, shortage of manpower, shortage of equipment, none?
- order-books or production schedules: above normal, normal, below normal?
- employment expectations for the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- price expectations in the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?

##### Quarterly (January, April, July and October):

- duration of assured production: in months?

### ECONOMIC SENTIMENT INDICATOR

The economic sentiment indicator is a composite measure in which the industrial confidence indicator, the consumer confidence index and the share price index are given equal weight, while the construction confidence indicator (an average of two series of the EC survey of the construction industry, namely employment expectations and judgements on the level of order-books) is attributed half the weight of each of the other three. The share price index is included in the composite indicator in ratio-to-trend form, in order to separate short-term or cyclical variations from long-term increases in the real and nominal value of stocks and shares. The long-term trend of the series is calculated using the NBER Bry-Boschan growth cycle programme. For a fuller description of the economic sentiment indicator and its components, see the technical note in the November 1982 issue of this Supplement.

#### The surveys are undertaken by:

- B - Belgium: Banque Nationale de Belgique
- DK - Denmark: Danmarks Statistik
- D - Federal Republic of Germany: IFO (Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung)
- GR - Greece: Institute of Economic and Industrial Research
- F - France: INSEE (Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques)
- IRL - Ireland: CII (Confederation of Irish Industries) and ESRI (Economic and Social Research Institute)
- I - Italy: ISCO (Istituto Nazionale per lo Studio della Congiuntura)
- L - Luxembourg: STATEC (Service Central de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques)
- NL - Netherlands: CBS (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek)
- UK - United Kingdom: CBI (Confederation of British Industry), for the manufacturing industry survey; DI (Department of Industry), for the investment survey; National Federation of Building Trades Employers, for the construction survey.

The surveys of manufacturing industry are broken down by 20 industrial sectors, and also by consumer, intermediate and capital goods branches; the results in this detail are published each month by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities in 'Business surveys' (ISSN 0378-4479). The results of consumer surveys appear three times a year in Supplement C to 'European Economy'.

### Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg

	ECU	BFR	IRL	UKL	USD	
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<b>Supplements</b>						
Series A — 'Economic trends' (11 issues per year)	9.82	400	6.75	5.80	11.50	Payments to be made only to the agents in the countries listed on page 3 of the cover of European Economy.
Series B — 'Business survey results' (11 issues per year)	9.82	400	6.75	5.80	11.50	
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All three supplements	23.32	950	16.00	13.80	27.00	These are surface mail rates; for air subscription rates please apply to the agents
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